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10 August 1976

Executive Registry

76-3164/1

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director of Central Intelligence
FROM: George L. Cary, Legislative Counsel
SUBJECT: Congressional Relations on Appropriations Matters
REFERENCE: Memo from Compt to DDCI; Same Subject; dtd 6 August 1976

1. The first sentence of referent memorandum, apparently based on a conversation with you, asserts that "we need a strategy which will improve our ability to get congressional cooperation on budgetary matters." It is my position that we have "an ability to get congressional cooperation on budgetary matters," what we need is a little more strategy on what budgetary matters are of sufficient priority and on which there is unanimity between the CIA and the Intelligence Community Staff to warrant an appeal to individual members of the Appropriations Committees.

2. We have personal relationships with a number of Senators and Congressmen which are good enough so that we can pick up the phone or arrange a meeting with any member of the subcommittee to discuss an issue of concern to us. You may recall that when the subject of Chuck Snodgrass' "helpful hearings" came up at a morning meeting, I suggested that we make contact with the members of the House Appropriations Defense Subcommittee at that time and attempt to draw them into the "hearings." [redacted] felt this would upset his relationships with Chuck Snodgrass and you agreed. Hence, there was no contact. I am confident that I and my staff could discuss any matter with any member of either the Senate or the House Appropriations Subcommittees with every reason to expect that we would receive a courteous reception and attention to the position we espouse. I would be perfectly happy to arrange for you to meet with any of these members if you desire to conduct these conversations at your level. I strongly believe, however,

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that recent thoughts of having a delegation of Agency representatives descend on individual members in an effort to get them to reconsider virtually every item which was cut from the budget would be both counterproductive and harmful to our overall relationships with these members. I would hope that you received the impression in our courtesy calls on Representatives Edwards and Cederberg and Senator Milton Young that the capabilities which I have described do in fact exist.

3. With respect to the suggestions in paragraph 2 of the referent memorandum, my comments are as follows:

a. On the Senate Intelligence Operations Subcommittee, Senators Pastore and Hruska are retiring. Their places will be taken by Senators Magnuson and Case unless these Senators decide to pass up membership on the Intelligence Operations Subcommittee in favor of some other subcommittee assignment. On the House Appropriations Committee it becomes more of a crystal ball proposition. I would expect most of these members to return to the 95th Congress but I will be happy to provide you with more precise information.

b. We will be glad to make a study on the interests of the members of the two Appropriations Subcommittees, if you wish. However, I think it is more important to have overall rapport with these members than it is to try to match their particular interests with our projection of the problem areas on which we might expect to have contact. These are very busy people and the notion that pounding their ear on a subject of ostensible interest to them will bring them around to our way of thinking is unrealistic. I believe it is more important that these individuals understand that we will not take up their time with small talk but will reserve our requests for meetings with them only when there is a matter of significant importance to merit their time. Your unsuccessful efforts to reach Chairman Mahon on an issue as important as the DDO investigation are a case in point.

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c. I assume the point here is that we would somehow assign Agency substantive experts to each member of the Subcommittee. I also feel that this philosophy would be counterproductive. When we need votes on a given issue, we need to go out and get the votes of as many members as we can on that issue and not hope that the Subcommittee member, who is an expert in that field, will somehow carry the water for us.

d. I believe this item is covered sufficiently in (a) through (c) above.

e. There is no reason for us to contact anyone behind anyone else's back.

4. In sum, I think much of which is suggested in the referent memorandum by way of establishing contacts is in fact a fait accompli. I believe we have access to the members of the Appropriations Committees if we need to deal with them on anything. What we need is some agreed strategy between the Intelligence Community staff, the Agency and the various bureaucratic elements of both as to just what it is we are trying to accomplish. Our problem, in my opinion, is the lack of agreement on what issues we really should go to bat on. At the present time there are five offices or individuals outside of the Office of Legislative Counsel who are telling us how we should run our business with the Congress. The result is fairly chaotic. I believe if everyone confined himself to his own area of responsibility and wrote fewer pieces of paper telling the other guy how to run his show, our total effort would be much more effective than it has been in recent weeks.

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George L. Cary
Legislative Counsel

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Hank -

I work on
the assumption
~~that~~ when you
want our
comments you
don't want us
to pussy-foot
around. This is
a straight from
the shoulder
comment & I

17:00:00 00000000 00000000 00000000

OLC

hope is not
regarded as sour
grapes. I think
we can give you
anything you
want but at the
moment this
platoon is suffer-
ing from having
too many first
sergeants... all
well-intentioned.



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#24
MEMORANDUM FOR: Comptroller

Jim:

Grist for the mill with regard
to Congressional relations with EAG.

E. H. Knoche

9/3/76

(DATE)

FORM NO. 101 REPLACES FORM 10-101
1 AUG 54 WHICH MAY BE USED.

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